(a) what is the percentage of total outlays of Railways being spent on passenger amenities;

(b) the details of various schemes to increase passenger amenities under implementation by the Railways;

(c) whether Government are reconsidering its decision to increase compartments to general passengers and also allow these passengers in sleeper coaches during day time;

(d) what are the facilities being provided by the Railway on the model Railway Stations;

(e) whether any machinery exist to ensure that these facilities are really provided to the passengers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Book Stalls at Railway Stations

1236. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of book/news stalls run on Railway platforms by M/s. A.H. Wheeler as well as M/s. Higginbothoms in the country; and

(b) what are the terms and conditions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) : (a) As per information furnished by Zonal Railways, M/s. A.H. Wheeler and Co. and M/s. Higgin-bothoms are managing, at present, 370 and 59 bookstalls, respectively on Railways.

(b) Terms and conditions are governed by various clauses of the agreements entered with the above said bookstall contractors, including that of payment of royalty @ 3% of their annual sales turnover, tenure of contract being 9 years, sole selling right allowed on stations/ platforms constructed before 31-12-1975, issue of selected passes, etc.

Connecting Ludhiana with Chandigarh by Rail Line

1237. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for connecting Ludhiana with Chandigarh; if so, what is the present position of this proposal;

(b) whether it is a fact that Punjab Government is pressing hard for connecting Chandigarh with the rest of Punjab;

(c) whether surveys have been done in this connection and if so, what is the latest position in this regard; and

(d) when Government propose to meet this long standing demand of Punjab as Punjab has returned to normalcy and people are awaiting action by Government to fulfil their long standing demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) : (a) Updating of survey of Rajpura-Chandigarh New Line has been included in the Railway Budget for 1993-94.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Survey for Ludhiana-Chandigarh line (95 kms.) was carried out in 1973. The cost of this new BG line

was then assessed at Rs. 19.56 crores with a rate of return of 3.22%. The project being of unremunerative nature could not be taken up.

(d) This will depend on results of survey and availability of resources in the coming years.

Proper maintenance of Rajdhani Express Trains

1238. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proper maintenance of Rajdhani trains for Bombay and Howrah require immediate improvements on account of increasing number of complaints from the passengers;

(b) whether the general quality of food being served in the train has deteriorated with least care for cleanliness;

(c) whether other amenities in the train for passengers are not being taken care of by the administration despite series of complaints; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) : (a) Some complaints were received regarding maintenance of Rajdhani Express and corrective action has already been taken.

(b) No Sir. However, as and when attention is drawn towards any deficiency in quality of service, immediate remedial action is taken. Besides, with a view to ensure satisfactory service, frequent as also special drives are conducted.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

पुणे स्टेशन पर रेलगाड़ी में विस्फोट

1239. **श्री राम नरेश यादव :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 22 अप्रैल, 1993 के "जनसत्ता" के दिल्ली संस्करण में "पुणे स्टेशन पर खड़ी ट्रेन में जोरदार धमाका, छः मरे" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस बम विस्फोट के फलस्वरूप क्षतिग्रस्त रेल सम्पत्ति और घायल व्यक्तियों का ब्यौरा क्या है तथा उन्हें अनुग्रह राशि के रूप में कितना-कितना भुगतान किया गया है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के०सी०लेंका)

(क) जी हां,

(ख) विस्फोट के कारण रेल संपत्ति का 4,08,723/– रुपये की क्षति हुई, सात व्यक्ति मारे गए थे और 29 व्यक्तियों को चोटें आई जिनमें 12 व्यक्तियों को गंभीर रूप से चोटें आई।

घायल यात्रियों और मृत व्यक्तियों के आश्रितों को अनुग्रह राशि के रूप में 43,250 रुपये का भुगतान किया गया है।

ललितपुर-खजुराहो-सतना और रीवा-सिंगरौली रेल लाइनों का निर्माण

1240. **श्री अजीत जोगी :**

श्री मूलचन्द मीणा :

क्या रेल मंत्री यहबताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार क्षेत्रीय और पर्यटन संबंधी विकास को ध्यान में रखते हुए ललितपुर-खजुराहो-सतना और रीवा-सिंगरौली रेल लाइनों के निर्माण को स्वीकृति देने का विचार रखती है;

(ख) क्या मध्य-प्रदेश और उत्तर प्रदेश की राज्य सरकारों ने उक्त रेल लाइनों के निर्माण के लिए रैल मंत्रालय को लिखा है; और

(ग) इन दोनों रेल लाइनों के संबंध में स्वीकृति कब तक दे दिए जाने की सम्भावना है ?